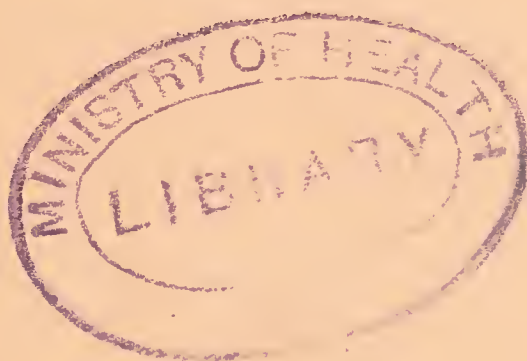


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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

**SOUTH HERTS (No. 1)
COMBINED
SANITARY DISTRICT**



MALCOLM GROSS

M.B., B.S., (Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (Eng.), D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1953



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1953

PRINTED BY L. W. VINEY
ALBION HILL
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

MALCOLM GROSS, M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
(Eng.), D.P.H.
(also Divisional Medical Officer, Dacorum Division, Hertfordshire C.C.).

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:—

ALAN C. HORNE, D.P.A., M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.
(Meat and Other Foods, Smoke, and Sanitary Science Certificates—
R.S.I.)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:—

E. BIRCH, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
(Meat and Other Foods, and Smoke Certificates—R.S.I.)

Additional Sanitary Inspector:—

K. A. CHESTER, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.
(Meat and Other Foods, and Sanitary Science Certificates—R.S.I.)

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:—

R. H. T. CHAPPELL, B.Sc., M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I. and
S.I.E.J.B.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate—R.S.I.)

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Sanitary Inspector:—

G. E. BROGAN, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Meat and Other Foods Certificate—R.S.I.)

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED.

Sanitary Inspector:—

C. LAIDMAN, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B., F.A.L.P.A.
(also Surveyor and Housing Manager to the District Council).

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING.

Sanitary Inspector:—

JAMES F. NORRIS, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,
M.S.I.A.
(also Surveyor to the District Council).

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P R E F A C E

Vital statistics for the District in 1953 show some improvement on those in 1952. The birth-rate rose from 15.1 to 16.8. The death-rate fell from 9.9 to 9.8. The infant mortality rate fell from 17.5 to 15.6. A comparison of vital statistics with those for England and Wales will be found on the last page of the Report.

Taking the District as a whole, there was a fall in the number of Scarlet Fever cases notified (39) as compared with 1952 (77); the disease continued to be mild in type. There was an increase in the number of notifications of Whooping Cough (203, as compared with 40 in 1952), and a decrease in Measles (648, as compared with 780 in 1952). These figures are an indication of the prevalence of these diseases in the District but they rise and fall, not only with the degree of prevalence, but also with the frequency with which a doctor is consulted and again probably also with the extent to which any particular medical practitioner carries out his duties of notification.

A condition which is detrimental to the public health in this District is produced by the shortage of institutional accommodation for the chronic sick, the old, and infirm. For years there has been a waiting list for the admission of cases of these types; the length of the list varies and the period of waiting may run into weeks or months. The patients suffer because they can only be inadequately cared for at home, and the relatives suffer because they realise their inadequacy and because of the strain of trying to cope with a problem beyond their capability; some of them incur considerable expense on private nursing home accommodation.

It is good to know that both the Ministry of Health and the Regional Hospital Board are taking all steps open to them to improve the position.

MALCOLM GROSS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
"Churchill,"
Park Road,
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts.

August, 1954.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

STATISTICS

The Borough comprises	7,193 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1953	30,380
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953) according to rate books	9,222
Rateable Value	£190,690
Sum represented by a penny rate	£825

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	528	266	262	BIRTH - RATE
	(				) per 1,000 of the
	(Illegitimate	24	9	15	) estimated resi-
					dent population 18.2
STILL-BIRTHS	(Legitimate	15	11	4	STILLBIRTH-
	(				) RATE per 1,000
	(Illegitimate	—	—	—	) (live and still)
					births 26.5
DEATHS	... ..	312	148	164	DEATH-RATE
					per 1,000 of the
					estimated resi-
					dent population 10.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	12.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	13.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	NIL
Actual number of deaths under one year:	
Legitimate	7
Illegitimate	NIL
	Total 7

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 48

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) NIL

B O R O U G H O F H E M E L H E M P S T E A D

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 312 deaths, 146 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory diseases. There were 2 deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis and 66 from other respiratory diseases. 48 deaths occurred from Cancer. There were 2 deaths from Influenza and 2 from motor vehicle accidents. No deaths occurred from Poliomyelitis or Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the 7 deaths, 6 occurred in children under the age of 4 weeks—4 being prematurely born. Of the other 2, 1 died from Congenital Malformation and the other from Septicaemia. The baby over 4 weeks of age died from Broncho-pneumonia.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1953.

Visits and Inspections Made.

Complaints

General

Number of complaints investigated	...	...	391
Houses—Public Health Acts	...	...	192
Housing Acts	...	...	14
Infectious diseases	...	...	90
Overcrowding	...	...	370
Council house applicants	...	...	161
Water supplies	...	...	202
Drainage and cesspools	...	...	666
Common lodging houses	...	...	14
Moveable dwellings	...	...	113
Canal boats	...	...	17
Factories, workplaces and outworkers premises	...	...	180
Building sites	...	...	276
Schools	...	...	11
Theatres, cinemas and public halls	...	...	6
Swimming pool	...	...	12
Shops Act	...	...	259
Petroleum Acts	...	...	301
Pet Animals Act	...	...	22

B O R O U G H O F H E M E L H E M P S T E A D

Rag Flock Act	...	...	...	...	1
Fireguards Act	...	...	...	...	2
Pests Act—rats and mice	...	...	...	...	1357
Dirty and verminous premises	...	...	...	...	36
Flies and insects	...	...	...	...	50
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	11
Smoke observations and boiler house visits	...	...	...	...	46
Fairgrounds	...	...	...	...	7
Revisits to dwellings under Notice	...	...	...	...	1014
Interviews	...	...	...	...	941
Other visits	...	...	...	...	1092

FOOD PREMISES :

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	7
Butchers shops	...	...	...	...	78
Food preparing rooms	...	...	...	...	8
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	46
Fried Fish shops	...	...	...	...	32
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	64
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	139
Restaurants, dining rooms and kitchens	...	...	...	...	134
Factory, building site, and mobile canteens	...	...	...	...	94
Public market and food stalls	...	...	...	...	99
Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	103
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	86
Other food premises	...	...	...	...	236
Food inspection visits	...	...	...	...	94

SAMPLES TAKEN :

Milk	...	...	...	...	75
Milk bottle rinses	...	...	...	...	69
Ice cream and lollipops	...	...	...	...	21
Water	...	...	...	...	104
Swimming pool	...	...	...	...	18

Notices Served and Complied With.

	Outstanding 31.12.52	Served 1953	Complied with 1953	Outstanding 31.12.53
Informal	62	264	261	63
Formal	30	40	41	31
	—	—	—	—
Total	92	304	302	94
	—	—	—	—

B O R O U G H O F H E M E L H E M P S T E A D

Nuisances Abated: Defects and Contraventions Remedied.

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	650
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Food premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
Shops (welfare)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	74
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	...	62

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	7
Houses treated for bed-bugs—Council houses	...	...	2
Other houses	...	...	5
Houses treated for other vermin	...	...	16
Houses treated for ants and wasps	...	...	14
Loads of bedding steam-treated	...	...	3

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

It is clear that re-arrangements in connection with the development of the New Town are going to result in a sweeping away of shops and their replacement by new ones. An opportunity is thus afforded for the provision of food premises which will at least conform to the minimum requirements of modern food hygiene, and one hopes for something even better. That the Chief Sanitary Inspector is mindful of this is evident by his remarks following:

He states: "Over eleven hundred visits were made in 1953 in connection with food and food premises. The standard of food hygiene is slowly improving, and managements generally are facing their responsibilities. There have been many changes in the town. Old shops have closed and new ones have opened: a number, particularly cafes, have changed hands: personnel is constantly moving. Every change requires at least one visit, and probably several visits, especially when incoming occupiers have had little previous food-handling experience.

When plans for new premises are submitted, the opportunity is taken to criticise and make suggestions: not all of these are acted upon, unfortunately, and there are not a few cases where experience has shown architect's joys to be occupier's woes. I have constantly stressed, particularly to the Development Corporation, the need to allocate a larger percentage of floor area to stores. The shopkeeper

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

wants a spacious shop in which he has maximum display room: but this should not be at the expense of adequate storage space. Inspections revealed food stored in unsatisfactory wooden huts, while sanitary accommodation was used to store empty containers awaiting collection for return to the factories. Assistants' outdoor clothing should not be draped over shelves containing goods—particularly foodstuffs. Cramped space and bad stacking lead to deterioration of goods, and this in turn breeds a “ couldn't care less ” attitude in employees.”

As regards Bakehouses, the Chief Sanitary Inspector states: “ The flour confectionery trade has not had a good year, and many smaller concerns throughout the country have closed down. In the Borough four bakehouses closed during the year: in two cases the work was transferred to larger bakeries in other districts. Two underground bakeries are still in use, and I shall submit a quinquennial report upon them during the early part of 1954. It is cheering to find the number dwindling, for situated as they are underground, with windows at or below pavement level, with difficult access, limited space and solid fuel ovens, needing some fuel storage space in the bakehouses themselves, they can never really be satisfactory from a food hygiene point of view.”

Milk Production and Distribution.

Most of the milk consumed in the Borough is supplied by a national firm from milk depots in London. The milk is pasteurised.

The results of milk sampling and milk bottle tests are shown in the tables below. They reveal a remarkably high standard.

Milk Sampling.

	Produced in Borough		Produced outside Borough	
	Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Designated Milk				
Pasteurised... ..	Nil	Nil	55	1
Tuberculin Tested	3	1	—	—
Non-Designated Milk	9	3	2	1

Milk Bottle Tests.

Bottles Tested	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Indeterminate
69	61	6	2

B O R O U G H O F H E M E L H E M P S T E A D

REGISTER.

The number of persons on the register at the end of 1953 was:—

Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	4
Distributors (bottled milk only)	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dairy premises (other than farms)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	8
Licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	...	8
Licensed to sell Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	9

Ice Cream.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector states: “ Of the two remaining ice cream manufacturers in the town, one ceased production altogether when his premises were acquired by the Development Corporation and he left the area, and the other made only a few batches of ice cream during the year.”

Results of sampling are shown in the following table:—

Bacteriological Examination.

Item	No. of Samples	Results
Ice Cream...	13	Satisfactory : all samples placed in Grades I or II.
Lollies ...	6	Satisfactory : acidity of samples would prevent growth of pathogenic organisms.

Meat and Food Inspection.

Centralised slaughtering continues to be carried out at Watford. The small extent of slaughtering in the Borough under the Self-Suppliers Scheme is indicated in the following table:—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl- uding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	2
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	2
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption:—

Fresh Meat	...	...	...	...	358 lbs.
Cooked or tinned meat	...	...	...	...	428 lbs.
Rabbits	...	...	...	...	38
Fish	...	...	...	...	62 lbs.
Sultanas and currants	...	...	...	...	110 lbs.
Tins or packets	...	...	...	...	1939

Licensed Premises.

Many improvements in the hygiene and sanitation at licensed premises can be recorded this year largely as a result of a previous survey which was followed-up by discussion between the Sanitary Inspector's staff and the Brewers concerned.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector states: "At nineteen premises work has been completed, at six work was in progress at the end of the year and at three more it is expected to start shortly. New sanitary accommodation has been provided at various "houses", and in several instances this has at last allowed the landlord and his family to enjoy their own private accommodation. New and improved sanitary accommodation, hot water to sinks and bar wash-ups, modernised kitchens and dining rooms, improvements to beer cellars, better lighting and ventilation and new drainage and sewage disposal plants are among the items completed. Redecoration has been carried out at most premises."

Improvements made to Licensed Premises:

Bar sinks provided	...	...	...	...	3
Hot water supplies to bar sinks	...	...	...	...	6
Kitchens improved	...	...	...	...	4
Water closets provided	...	...	...	...	10
Sanitary accommodation repaired or cleansed	...	...	...	...	10
Sanitary accommodation—other items	...	...	...	...	14
Other improvements	...	...	...	...	8
No. of premises concerned	...	...	...	...	19

Clean Food Campaign

In connection with the increased interest in food cleanliness and the stress on the importance of the subject, the following information is provided:—

(a) NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES :

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Fishmongers—wet and dried fish only	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
—wet, dried and fried fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

B O R O U G H O F H E M E L H E M P S T E A D

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Grocers and greengrocers (mixed trade)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Flour confectionery (bread and cakes)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Sugar confectionery (sweets)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Licensed premises serving main meals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

(b) NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT :

Registered for sausage making, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Registered as dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Registered for sale of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63

(c) NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS OF REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES :

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86

(d) There has been no new activity. The inspection staff visits and endeavours to educate by personal instruction and advice.

(e) METHOD OF DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD :

The major quantity is disposed of under supervision on the Corporation's controlled tip; a small amount of butchers meat and tinned foods were incinerated at a local factory.

Food Poisoning:

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred during the year.

F A C T O R I E S , W O R K S H O P S A N D W O R K P L A C E S .

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937.

I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	23	22	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	125	148	11	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	39	276	18	—
TOTAL ...	187	446	29	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosec- utions were instituted
	Found	Reme- died	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	1	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	—	—	1	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) insufficient	15	15	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	12	15	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences re- lating to Outwork)	2	2	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	29	32	2	—	—

3. Outworkers:

Making, etc. of wearing apparel	40
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts there- of made wholly or partially from paper	128
Brush making	4
Total	172

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

HOUSING

1. The Housing Manager states:—

“ The overall housing position has remained much as before throughout the year. A small number of houses in the early months completed two contracts and there was then little accommodation available until the later part of the summer when the Borough's first blocks of flats were ready for occupation. These are one and two bedroomed flats and have made it possible to house a number of small households, although it has been impossible to help the larger families or those with older children of opposite sexes, and by the end of the year the completion of some of the three bed-roomed houses was eagerly awaited.

The Council's policy of allocating a percentage of new properties to early applicants in date order has made it possible to deal with a number of very longstanding, though not quite so urgent, applicants. New applications are always being received however, and changed circumstances have made others more urgent, so that the demand for accommodation seems as great as ever.”

2. During the year 1953, the following houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	168	2 and 3 bedroom houses	30

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick	50	2 and 3 bedroom houses 1 and 2 bedroom flats	8

B O R O U G H O F H E M E L H E M P S T E A D

3. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.53 was as follows:

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.53 :—

Site	No. of Houses	Type of House
Crabtree Lane ...	31	Temporary Prefabricated — 2 bedroom
Wood Crescent ...	19	Temporary Prefabricated — 2 bedroom
Adeyfield ...	102	Permanent Prefabricated—3 bedroom
Belswains Fm. Est.	102	Permanent Brick—3 & 4 bedroom
Belswains 3 ...	26	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Belswains 4 ...	24	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Belswains 5 ...	18	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Beechfield 1 ...	50	Permanent Brick
Beechfield 2 ...	22	} Permanent Brick—Bungalows and 2 & 3 bedroom houses
Beechfield 3 ...	26	
Beechfield 4 ...	30	
Beechfield 5 ...	22	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Oakdene Road ...	6	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Fairway ...	25	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Fairway 5 ...	15	Permanent Brick—2 & 3 bedroom
Stonelea Road ...	14	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Vauxhall Road ...	14	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom.
Seaton Road ...	1	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Deaconsfield Road	1	Permanent Brick—3 bedroom
Oliver Road ...	2	Permanent Brick—2 bedroom

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.53 :

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Adeyfield 2 ...	66	1 & 2 bedroom flats ...	66	30
Adeyfield 3 ...	50	2 and 3 bedroom ...	50	—
Adeyfield 4 ...	52	do.	52	—
Beechfield 6 ...	38	do.	38	—
Crabtree Lane ...	54	do.	8	—
Warners End ...	58	do.	20	—

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

(c) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) *PROJECTED* SINCE 1.1.53, i.e. Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.53 :

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type of house
Belswains 6	16	4 shops, 2 bedroom flats (2), 3 bedroom houses (8), 2 bedroom house (1), 1 bedroom bungalows (5)
Highfield Neighbourhood ...	1000	2 & 3 bedroom houses, & 1 bedroom bungalows
Adeyfield 5... ..	6	1 bedroom bungalows

4. Number of houses and huts requisitioned at end of 1953:—
- | | |
|---------------|----|
| Houses | 41 |
| Huts | 3 |
- Number of applicants on waiting list for Council houses at end of February 1954 (after Annual Review) ... 825

5. I am indebted to the Hemel Hempstead Development Corporation for the following information regarding the progress of the New Town:—

“ **Housing.** During 1953, the following new dwellings were completed by the Development Corporation:—

92	1-bedroom.
276	2-bedroom.
914	3-bedroom.
152	4-bedroom.

making a total of 1434 for the year. The total number of dwellings completed by the Development Corporation was thus 3,048.

Most of this housing was in Bennetts End where 1,200 dwellings were completed. Building continued in Adeyfield on a small scale with 230 dwellings, and the first houses in the west of the town were completed at Chaulden (72 dwellings).

At the end of the year over 1,000 houses were under construction of which 600 were in the Western Neighbourhoods of Chaulden and Warners End.

During the year 1,448 dwellings were occupied and the total number of people who have moved to the new town at the end of 1953 is estimated to be a little over 10,000.

Industry. At the end of the year 9 factories with a total floor space of a little over 650,000 sq. ft. and employing almost 3,000 people were in production.

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Town Centre. The main drainage work in the Town Centre was nearing completion by the end of the year, as was the new road west of and parallel to Marlowes. A number of sites were cleared in preparation for building new shops and offices. The first 7 shops, adjacent to the Square were nearly ready for occupation at the end of the year.

School Building. School building by the Hertfordshire County Council to meet the needs of the new town went ahead rapidly during the year. At 31st December 5 primary school departments (1 in Chaulden and the rest in Bennetts End), a secondary modern school and a new Grammar school were under construction. The number of new town school children was estimated to be 1,800 at the end of the year.

Social Facilities. Adeyfield Hall was completed in October and in addition to providing a meeting place for social activities in the neighbourhood, has facilities for a child welfare centre.

In Bennetts End the first shops were opened in the neighbourhood centre—Bennettsgate—and 3 temporary huts were converted into a Community Hall. Here too, there are facilities for a child welfare centre to be held.

In Chaulden, the conversion of the ballroom at Chaulden House into a temporary meeting place was almost complete at the year end, and 4 shops were under construction."

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector states:—" There have been considerable sewer extensions in the Apsley/Bennetts End, the Chaulden and Warners End neighbourhoods in connection with new development, and it has been possible to connect a few old houses to these new sewers. There are still several unsewered developed areas in the Borough, and Inspectors spend a good deal of time in connection with overflowing or faulty cesspools. A small disposal plant replaced the cesspool at a licensed premises where main meals are also served.

At all demolition sites—including thirty-seven demolitions by the Development Corporation—disused drains were cut off and sealed to the Sanitary Inspector's satisfaction.

Supervision of building site sanitation again took an undue amount of time: misuse of hedges and spinneys was found on a number of occasions and, particularly where more than one contractor was engaged in the area, some difficulty was experienced in getting the nuisance abated."

B O R O U G H O F H E M E L H E M P S T E A D

WATER SUPPLIES

The greater part of the Borough is supplied by mains water. A small area at Felden is connected to the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company's water supply and the remainder of the town is supplied from the Council's boreholes—one at Piccotts End and two at the Waterworks at Marlowes.

The average daily consumption of water during the year was 1,970,000 gallons, an increase of 44,000 gallons, on the previous year, presumably caused by the increased population of the growing new town. Incidental to this growth is the laying of 10 miles of distribution mains, the completion of a 21" pumping main and the installation of a new submersible pump for the 27" borehole at Piccotts End Waterworks. Other works in hand include the laying of a 24" trunk main, the erection of a water tower at High Street Green, Piccotts End Pumping Station, and a booster station at Adeyfield.

All water is chlorinated. Main water supplies were repeatedly sampled, giving satisfactory results (see table below).

The following table gives particulars of dwellings and population supplied from public water mains and from wells:—

Total number in the Borough	...	...	Dwellings 9222*	Persons 33000†
Number supplied from main—				
1. Direct	...	...	9188	32900
2. To outside standpipes	...	...	7	17
			9195	32917
Number supplied by wells	...	...	27	83

* Supplied by Borough Treasurer. † Estimated.

Water Samples taken during the year 1953.

Description of Samples	No of Samples					
	Bacteriological Exam.			Chemical Examination		
	Taken	Satis.	Unsat.	Taken	Satis.	Unsat.
Main Supply—						
Raw Water —						
Marlowes ...	14	12	2	3	3	—
Piccotts End	20	20	—	4	4	—
Chlorinated...	28	28	—	—	—	—
Private Supplies	35	23	12	—	—	—
Swimming Pool	18	18	—	—	—	—

Main Water ...	Total Hardness—25.0 parts per 100,000; 17.5 grains per gal.
----------------	---

BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year 1953:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	9	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	63	—	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)...	2	2	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-para.)	1	1	Nil
Measles	166	11	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	4	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	15	1	Nil
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	1	1	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic)	Measles	Pnerperal Pyrexia	Infectious Hepatitis	Meningococcal Meningitis
Under 1 year ... ..	...	4	...	...	7	...	...	...
1 to 2 years ... ..	...	6	...	...	10	...	...	...
2 to 3 „ ... ..	...	8	...	...	15	...	...	...
3 to 4 „	2	10	...	...	19	...	...	...
4 to 5 „	1	7	...	...	17	...	1	...
5 to 10 „	5	24	1	1	84	...	8	...
10 to 15 „	1	4	...	...	12	...	2	...
15 to 20 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
20 to 35 „ ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	3	3	...
35 to 45 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
45 to 65 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Age unknown ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	9	63	2	1	166	4	15	1

B O R O U G H O F H E M E L H E M P S T E A D

After the epidemic of Measles in the last quarter of 1952, there was a lull in January, but February saw a large increase of notifications, which gradually fell during March and April and had almost disappeared in May.

There was a noticeable increase in the number of notifications of Whooping Cough. Notifications rose in March, continued high in April, fell in May and rose again in June. Thereafter, there were never more than 5 cases a month.

The one case of meningococcal meningitis was in an adult who made a good recovery.

Of the two cases of paralytic poliomyelitis, one (a child) made a good recovery; the other (an adult) has at present made a partial recovery.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES.				DEATHS OF CASES ON REGISTER.			
Pulmonary	...	...	31	Pulmonary	...	...	2
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	4	Non-Pulmonary	...	...	Nil

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

STATISTICS

The Rural District comprises an area of 20,249 acres, and is made up of the parishes of Kings Langley, Flaunden, Bovington, Great Gaddesden, Flamstead and Markyate.

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1953	...	...	...	...	...	12,000
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	...	3,579
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£72,355
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£282

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>		
LIVE-BIRTHS	(Legitimate	193	99	94	) BIRTH - RATE	
	(				) per 1,000 of the	
	(Illegitimate	10	4	6	) estimated resi-	
					dent population	16.9
STILL-BIRTHS	(Legitimate	1	1	—	) STILLBIRTH-	
	(				) RATE per 1,000	
	(Illegitimate	—	—	—	) (live and still)	
					births	4.9
DEATHS	...	113	59	54	DEATH-RATE	
					per 1,000 of the	
					estimated resi-	
					dent population	9.4

Deaths from Puerperal Causes NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	14.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	15.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	NIL

Actual number of deaths under one year:

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	3	) Total
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	NIL	) 3

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 27

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) NIL

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 113 deaths, 51 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory diseases. There was one death from Respiratory Tuberculosis and 17 from other Respiratory diseases. Twenty-seven deaths occurred from Cancer. There was one death from Influenza and two occurred from motor vehicle accidents. There were no deaths from Poliomyelitis or Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the 3 deaths, 2 occurred in children under 4 weeks of age; both were born prematurely. The third death was due to Pneumonitis.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1953.

Visits and Inspections Made.

GENERAL :

Houses—Housing Acts	...	...	...	156
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	6
Water supply	...	...	...	20
Drainage	...	...	...	41
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	82
Factories	...	...	...	2
Visits re. refuse collection	...	...	...	62
Visits re. refuse disposal	...	...	...	40
Schools	...	...	...	18
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	19
Reinspections	...	...	...	39
Interviews	...	...	...	64
Petroleum	...	...	...	12
Public houses	...	...	...	10
Council house inspections	...	...	...	836

MEAT AND FOODS :

Bakehouses	...	...	...	4
Butchers	...	...	...	8
Grocers	...	...	...	16
Dairies	...	...	...	2
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	5
Restaurants	...	...	...	12

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Notices Served and Complied With.

	Outstanding 31.12.52	Served 1953	Complied with 1953	Outstanding 31.12.53
Formal ...	Nil	7	7	Nil
Informal ...	26	91	82	35
	—	—	—	—
Total ...	26	98	89	35
	—	—	—	—

Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

Dustbins ...	27
Fireplaces ...	2
Houses with defective windows and doors	3
Dangerous structures	3
Houses with defective roofs	11
Drainage ...	11
Water closets	2
Water supply	2
Cleanliness	1
Wall and ceiling plaster	3
General dampness	9
Pail closets	3
Floors	1
Miscellaneous	15
Animals	2
Unclean shops	1

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses treated for bed-bugs—Council houses	1
Other houses	1
Premises treated for other vermin	12
Loads of bedding steam-treated	1
Houses disinfected after infectious disease	5

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Production and Distribution.

REGISTER :	
Number of dairies registered (not being dairy farms)	2

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Number of distributors of milk	16
Number of dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	11
Number of supplementary Pasteurised licences ...	6
Number of supplementary Sterilised licences ...	8

Ice-Cream—Registration under the Food and Drugs Act.

Twenty premises are used in connection with the manufacture or sale of ice cream, preserved food, etc. Of these 19 are registered for the sale of ice cream and one for the sale and manufacture of ice cream.

Other Food Premises.

There are 3 bakehouses, 5 fish-frying premises and 32 cafés and meal preparing premises in the district. Representations have been made to brewers in four cases to ensure improvements regarding drainage and other facilities in public houses.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector states: "Last year I reported upon the unsatisfactory state of affairs at the canteen at Bovington Airport and I regret to state that the condition remains materially unchanged.

It has not been found possible to inspect as regularly as desired all the food preparing premises in the district. Most of the establishments are run on reasonable lines but many have suffered from staffing problems and the continual change-over of kitchen staff must present the proprietors with many problems.

The Council have adopted byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. No cases have been taken under these byelaws."

Slaughterhouses.

There are four licensed slaughterhouses in the district. No slaughtering for the purpose of sale took place in the district during the year other than emergency slaughtering.

Foodstuffs found to be unfit for Human Consumption:

Meat and Meat Products	28 lbs.
Cheese	48 lbs.
Tins and bottles	25

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred in the District during the year.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.
 Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
 Factories Act 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	61	2	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	12	15	—	—
TOTAL ...	87	17	—	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found ... Nil
3. **Outwork:** Sections 110 and 111 ... Nil

HOUSING

I. Demolition and Closing Orders.

	Number of		Remarks
	Houses	Persons Displaced	
(a) Housing Act, 1936—			
(i) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11	9	29	All rehoused by Local Authority
(ii) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11 and still in force ...	1	4	
(iii) Parts of building closed— (Section 12) ...	Nil	Nil	
(b) Housing Act, 1949—			
(i) Closing Orders made under Section 3(1) ...	Nil	Nil	
(ii) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3(2) ...	Nil	Nil	
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953—			
Closing Orders made under Section 10(1) ...	3	1	

Repairs: Informal Action—

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during 1953 as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts ... 33

2. Council House Inspections.

During the year the Senior Sanitary Inspector inspected all houses owned by the Council. This was an onerous undertaking but has been productive of valuable information and salutary effects. The Senior Sanitary Inspector summarises the work as follows:—

- “i) The tenant was informed of the date of inspection and normally 48 hours’ notice was given.
- ii) The premises were inspected and notes taken of the state of the garden, obvious damage to the property caused by the tenant, the general level of living and notes on rooms etc., obviously requiring decoration.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

- iii) The facts regarding each house were reported to the Committee, giving the date of occupation of the tenant, the number in family and a summary of the conditions found.
- iv) After considering reports, the Clerk was instructed by the Committee to require the necessary works to be done.
- v) Re-inspection was carried out at a suitable interval afterwards, notice being given of the re-inspection.
- vi) In cases of continued failure to carry out the requirements, notice to quit was served by the Clerk. Up to the end of the year it had not been found necessary to dispossess any tenant, but there were a considerable number still on the outstanding list.

RESULT OF INSPECTIONS :—

- Category 1 — Satisfactory.
- Category 2 — Indifferent, but no action required.
- Category 3 — Falls short in some respect as to the way in which house kept and action required.
- Category 3g— Falls short only as respects cultivation of garden.

Parish	Number Inspected	Category			
		1	2	3g	3
Markyate	113	72	14	13	14
Kings Langley	231	150	13	22	46
Great Gaddesden	53	38	4	3	8
Flamstead	62	47	1	6	8
Bovingdon	90	54	12	11	13
Chipperfield	80	45	7	13	15
Total	629	406	51	68	104
Percentage	100	75	8	11	16

- 3. During the year the following number of houses were:—
- (a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Prefabricated	14	3 bed., non-parlour	Nil
Permanent Brick ...	119	2 & 3 bedroom, non-parlour	48

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Prefabricated	14	3 bedroom non-parlour	Nil
Permanent Brick ...	95	2 & 3 bedroom, parl- and non-parlour	42

4. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.53 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.53 :

Site	No. of Houses	Type of House
Markyate, Buckwood Road ...	45	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour.
Markyate, Buckwood Road ...	11	Arcon, 2-bedroom, Temporary
Markyate, Cowper Road ...	61	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, 2-bedroom and 1 bedroom flats.
Kings Langley, Rucklers Lane	24	Uni-Seco, 2-bedroom, temp'y.
Kings Langley, Rucklers Lane	12	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour.
Kings Langley, Barnes Estate	45	Brick, 3-bedroom, non-parlour and parlour and 2-bedroom.
Kings Langley, Wesley Estate	42	Brick, 3-bedroom, non-parlour. 2-bedroom and 1-bed. flats.
Flamstead	41	Brick, 2- & 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour; Airey & Timber, 3-bedroom, parlour (10).
Chipperfield,	36	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour, 2-bedroom and 1 bedroom flats.
Bovingdon, Hyde Meadows ...	118	Brick, Airey & Unity, 3-bed., parlour and non-parlour.
Gaddesden Row, Jockey End	12	Brick, 3-bedroom, parlour and non-parlour.
Great Gaddesden	6	Brick, 3-bedroom. parlour and non-parlour.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.53 :

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Markyate, Parkfield ...	22	3-bed. & 2-bed , non-plr.	22	—
Bovingdon ...	24	2-bedroom flats ...	24	12
Flamstead ...	12	2 & 3-bedroom, non-plr.	12	1
Kings Langley, Barnes Estate ...	6	2-bedroom, non-parlour	6	—
Bury Estate ...	30	3-bedroom, Unity	30	—
Flaunden ...	6	3-bedroom, non-parlour	6	—

(c) PARTICULARS OF OTHER SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.45, i.e. Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.53 :

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type
Kings Langley, Edmund Estate ...	32	2 bedroom flats (16), 3 bedroom houses (16)
Bovingdon ...	12	1 bedroom flats
Chipperfield ...	16	Brick, 3 bedroom, parlour (2), non-parlour (14)

5.
- Number of houses in requisition by the Council at end of 1953 ... 31
- Number of hutments in requisition by the Council at end of 1953 ... 62
- Number of houses owned by the Council ... 815
- Number of applicants for Council houses at 31.12.53 ... 298

6. The collection of huts adjoining Bovingdon Airport, which were taken over by the Rural District Council as emergency housing, are gradually being cleared. During the year, the number was reduced by 25.

Caravans.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector makes the following observations:—

- “ Caravans in the District can be divided into two types:—
- (a) Those on sites of more than one caravan, and
- (b) Individual caravans.

Efforts are made to keep track of all the caravans in the District and to insist upon each occupier applying for the necessary licence and Town Planning permission. The Council have laid down standard conditions which are attached to each licence and these, whilst being reasonable, require a standard which makes living in these structures tolerable if primitive.

My experience is that most caravans suffer from dampness due to condensation, overheating during the winter due to lack of ventilation, overcrowding due to restricted internal space, and general misery due to mud and poor approach. Most caravans are tolerable for summer holidays but not for permanent living.

At the end of the year there were nine sites with 63 caravans on them. In addition, there were licences for 27 individual caravans.

During the year proceedings were repeatedly taken against one site owner for failure to provide adequate water supply facilities and for having an excessive number of caravans on the site. At the end of the year the matter had not been cleared up and further prosecution was being undertaken.

The great majority of sites in the district are well ordered."

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage of the sewered portion of the parish of Kings Langley is now being received into the trunk sewer of the Colne Valley Sewerage Board.

For some time negotiations have been in progress for the acquisition by the Rural District Council of the sewage works at Shantock Hall Lane, Bovingdon. They were originally constructed for the treatment of sewage from Bovingdon Airport. The proposition is to enlarge the works to enable it to satisfactorily deal with the proposed sewerage of Bovingdon village; sewerage for about 120 Council houses in Bovingdon is already carried to these works, but the rest of Bovingdon depends on cesspools and earth closets. The proposed scheme envisages the sewerage of at least the centre of the village and this would of course effect a considerable improvement in sanitary conditions.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The acquisition by the Council of a new large packing type vehicle at mid-summer enabled improvements to be made to the

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

collection service without increasing the number of staff engaged. The amount of refuse being collected is showing an increase each year, especially so in the southern parishes.

Night Soil Collection.

Weekly collection at night of pail closets is made by the Authority's cesspool machine at Bovingdon, Flaunden, Chipperfield and Great Gaddesden. Kings Langley and Markyate being sewered, there are very few pail closets, and these are dealt with privately. The disposal is into the sewage works at Bovingdon Airport and on to land acquired for the purpose in Great Gaddesden parish.

Cesspool Emptying.

Cesspool emptying is carried out by the Council's own machine. The volume of cesspool emptying work coming to hand varies greatly throughout the year. After heavy rainfall or melting snow, there are far more requests for the work than can be reasonably managed.

Many cesspools in the district are never emptied until the whole drainage system ceases to function. The cesspool is then found to be completely filled with solid sludge which is incapable of being pumped out. As a result of neglect over the years, the occupier is then faced with expensive works.

WATER SUPPLIES

Particulars of water supplies in the various parishes are to be found in my Annual Report for 1951.

During the year there came to hand supplies of pipes for the comprehensive scheme for the water supply of the northern parishes, and construction work began both in the erection of two water towers and the provision of mains.

Water Samples Taken during 1953:

Private	...	...	...	...	6 (2 unsatisfactory)
Public	...	...	...	...	9 (1 unsatisfactory)

The unsatisfactory public sample was taken from a standpipe in one of the villages. Further samples showed that the main supply in question was again perfectly satisfactory. In addition, chemical analysis was undertaken of the Markyate water supply, and this was found to be satisfactory.

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Parish	Population (approx.)	(a) Direct to Houses		(b) By means of stand-pipes	
		Houses	Pop'n.	Houses	Pop'n.
Bovingdon	2410	573	2234	40	156
Flaunden	180	19	82	23	99
Kings Langley	3940	1095	3877	18	63
Chipperfield	1440	367	1248	55	192
Flamstead	1200	93	335	139	501
Gt. Gaddesden	1050	61	232	89	338
Markyate	1900	477	1670	61	213
Total ...	12120	2685	9678	425	1562

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	4	2	Nil
Whooping Cough	10	—	Nil
Measles	99	—	Nil
Dysentery	1	—	Nil

RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	...
1 to 2 years ...	...	2	7	...
2 to 3 „ ...	1	2	9	...
3 to 4 „ ...	1	1	15	...
4 to 5 „ ...	...	...	18	...
5 to 10 „ ...	2	5	47	1
10 to 15 „ ...	...	...	...	...
15 to 20 „ ...	...	...	2	...
20 to 35 „ ...	...	...	...	...
35 to 45 „ ...	...	...	...	...
45 to 65 „ ...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...	...
Age unknown ...	...	...	1	...
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	4	10	99	1

Nearly all the cases of Measles notified occurred in the first quarter of the year and were apparently a continuation of the outbreak in the last quarter of 1952.

The one case of Dysentery (sonne) was of interest in that through its relation with a worker in a food factory, special precautions were necessitated.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES. ...				DEATHS OF CASES ON REGISTER.			
Pulmonary	...	...	3	Pulmonary	...	...	I
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	I	Non-Pulmonary	...	...	I

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

STATISTICS

The Urban District of Berkhamsted comprises an area of	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,017 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,450
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,514
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£97,357
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£378

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	171	89	82	) BIRTH - RATE
	(				) per 1,000 of the
	(Illegitimate	4	1	3	) estimated resi-
					dent population 15.3
STILL-BIRTHS	(Legitimate	5	2	3	) STILLBIRTH-
	(				) RATE per 1,000
	(Illegitimate	2	2	—	) (live and still)
					births ... 38.5
DEATHS	...	107	64	43	DEATH-RATE
					per 1,000 of the
					estimated resi-
					dent population 9.3

Deaths from Puerperal Causes NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	28.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	29.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	NIL
Actual number of deaths under 1 year:				
Legitimate	...	...	...	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	NIL
				Total 5

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 21

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) NIL

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 107 deaths, 49 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory Diseases. There was one death from Respiratory Tuberculosis and 16 from other respiratory diseases. Twenty-one deaths occurred from Cancer. One death occurred from a motor vehicle accident, and there were none from Poliomyelitis, Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis or Influenza.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the 5 deaths, 3 occurred in children under 4 weeks of age. Two of these were prematurely born; the other died from Inter-cranial Haemorrhage. The two deaths over 4 weeks of age were from Multiple Pulmonary Abscesses and Acute Bronchitis.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1953.

Visits and Inspections Made.

COMPLAINTS :

Complaints received	336
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

GENERAL :

Dwelling houses inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	278
Requisitioned premises	...	...	...	...	...	113
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	50
Dirty and verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	12
Housing enquiries—cases of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	13
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	61
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	12
Drainage inspections	...	...	...	...	...	81
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	2
Common lodging houses	...	...	...	...	...	5
Re-visits to premises under Notice	...	...	...	...	...	96
Swimming pools	...	...	...	...	...	4
Interviews with owners, builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	42
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	330
Sewage farm and tips	...	...	...	...	...	8
Pet shops	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hostels	...	...	...	...	...	5

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Meat and Foods

Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	50
Provision stores	...	...	...	...	...	64
Meat shops	...	...	...	...	...	51
Café premises	...	...	...	...	...	52
Market inspections	...	...	...	...	...	42
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	38

Sampling

Water—bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	12
chemical	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice cream—bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	7

Notices Served and Complied With.

	Outstanding 31.12.52	Served 1953	Complied with 1953	Outstanding 31.12.53
Formal	Nil	23	23	Nil
Informal	15	80	86	9
Total	15	103	109	9

Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS :—

Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	36
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plaster	...	...	...	...	...	5
Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	4
Gutters	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	13
Choked drains cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	52
W.C. fittings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
Door and window fittings	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sink fittings	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overflowing cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	...	3
Washboilers renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dangerous buildings	...	...	...	...	...	2
Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	2

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT :—

Premises cleansed and limewashed	10
----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses disinfected after disease	...	...	...	9
Houses cleansed and disinfected	...	...	...	8
Houses treated for vermin	...	...	...	8
Loads of bedding steam-treated	...	...	...	15
Wasps nests destroyed	...	...	...	10

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

One premises is registered under the above Act. Very little flock is used or stored and no sample was taken.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two common lodging houses registered with the Local Authority. Both these premises have been on the register for many years and are reasonably maintained and well kept.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Sanitary Inspector states:—

Milk Production and Distribution.

“ The following licences were issued during the year:—

Dealers licence for sale of Pasteurised Milk	...	2
„ „ „ „ „ Tuberculin-Tested Milk.	...	2
„ „ „ „ „ Sterilised Milk	...	1
Number of dairy premises in the District	...	2

There are no bottling or pasteurising depots within the area and generally the dairy premises, which are well kept, are merely distribution depots for bottled milk which is brought in from other areas. There are only two dairy herds producing milk within the district and in both cases the producer is licensed under the Designated Milk Regulations.”

Ice Cream.

“ The registration of premises under the Food and Drugs Act remains the same as reported last year—one premises being

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

registered for manufacture and sale and ten other premises for retail sale. The conditions of the Ice Cream Regulations are observed in every case. Seven samples of ice cream were taken during the year and submitted for provisional grading; the results were satisfactory."

Meat and Food Inspection.

"Slaughtering of bovines, sheep and pigs is still centralised at Tring Abattoir which serves Berkhamsted U.D.C., Berkhamsted R.D.C. and Tring U.D.C. All carcasses and offal are subject to post-mortem examination. Imported frozen meat, carcasses and offal are distributed from the Aylesbury Depot. Frequent visits are made to meat shops in the town for the purpose of inspection under the Food and Drugs Act and other matters regarding meat. The premises generally give satisfaction."

Foodstuffs found to be unfit for Human Consumption.

Tins, Jars and Packets	1254
Eggs	610
Cheese—lbs.	35
Bacon—lbs.	30
Sausages—lbs.	45
Butter—lbs.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$

Food Preparing Premises.

"The following is a statement of food preparing premises in the area which are subject to control under the Food and Drugs Act:—

Hotel restaurant kitchens	3
Cafés	5
Snackbars and tea rooms	5
Fried fish shops	4
Meat shops	12
Bakehouses	5
Provision stores	18
School Meals Service kitchens	2
Works Canteen kitchens	2

Including premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, 30 premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (which provides for the registration of premises used for or in connection with the manufacture and sale of ice cream, sausages and certain preserved foods).

Little can be added to the comments of other years. It can, however, be stated that most occupiers of premises at which food

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

is prepared are becoming more conscious of their responsibility to the public health. It is not suggested that they have in any way refuted their liability in the past, but any increased tendency on their part is two-fold. Firstly, as a result of publicity and secondly, possibly more important, for economic reasons. These economic grounds which are resultant of competition are already having effect. It is pleasing to see confectionery and bread now being properly wrapped on sale; exposed foodstuffs on counters are being more accommodated by protective glass shelving and more particularly, there is a gradual increase in the number of refrigerated counters in use.

It only remains now for the whole of the retail meat trade to provide sufficient clean and hygienic paper wrappings for their commodity when decontrol of meat is effected in July 1954."

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred in the District during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act 1937.

I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	6	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	56	50	9	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	5	5	—	—
TOTAL ...	68	61	10	—

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted
	Found	Reme- died	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	10	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	10	—	—	—	—

Outwork.

Making, etc. of wearing apparel I

HOUSING

1. I am indebted to Mr. R. E. Hulse, Engineer and Surveyor to Berkhamsted Urban District Council, for the following summary of the position in regard to the provision of Council houses during 1953:—

“ The number of new houses completed during the year was the highest since the war. The figure of 108 is 6 greater than the previous year and comprises 86 built by the Local Authority and 22 by private enterprise. The total figure of new houses completed since the war is 465, made up of 362 municipal houses and 103 private ones. The whole of the municipal development during the year was on Durrants Estate, which is the Council’s principal post-war housing site and is situated on the west side of the town with an area of approximately 40 acres. By the end of 1954, it is anticipated that this scheme will be nearing completion.

Dwellings in course of construction on this estate number 42 houses, 18 bungalows and 2 shops and a further 22 houses are in Contract let but not commenced, whilst a scheme for small flats is in the planning stage.

On the estate, there is a considerable variety of dwellings ranging from 4-bedroomed types down to single-bedroomed bungalows. The demand for the larger types of house, including those

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

with 3 and 4 bedrooms, has dropped off and the circumstances of the applicants with whom the Council are dealing now are such that smaller houses are required, principally 2-bedroomed types, and there is also a demand for single-bedroomed flats.

The waiting list of applicants is reviewed annually and this year a "live" figure of 350 was obtained. It is interesting to note that at last there is a drop in the rate of new applications. The circumstances of applicants have changed during recent years and it is now somewhat rare to find any physical overcrowding and there is no doubt that people living under very bad housing conditions have all been accommodated.

It is expected that the number of aged persons' bungalows in course of construction and the proposed scheme for small flats will satisfy the need of a section of the community that up to the present the Local Authority have been unable to cater for on a large scale. This will clear the way for the Council to devote its efforts to dealing with the appreciable number of worn out and insanitary houses in the district.

In my last report, I stated that I earnestly hoped that legislation would be passed in the near future to deal with the national problem of sub-standard property, and it is gratifying to know that a Bill to this effect is now before the House. The Council are only awaiting the passing of the new Act so that they can formulate their policy with regard to substandard houses in the area and they hope to be one of the first Authorities to move in this respect."

2. The Sanitary Inspector states:—

"During the year three properties were represented to the Council under Section 11 as being individually unfit and incapable at reasonable expense of being made fit. In one instance the owner gave an undertaking, acceptable to the Council, not to relet the property for human habitation and further undertook, on vacation of the property by the existing tenant to submit to the Council for their consideration, a schedule of works necessary to render the house suitable for habitation. This matter has still to be concluded.

In the second instance, a deferred Demolition Order was made. The tenant was rehoused by the Council and the house was closed. The house in question was one of a block of four owned by the same owner, and after negotiation the Council agreed to their purchase with a view to future development.

The third case concerned a vacant cottage of the back-to-back type. A Demolition Order was made and the matter has yet to be concluded."

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

1. During the year the following number of houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	96	3 bed. parlr., 3 bed. non-parl. & 1 bed. non-parl.	36

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	86	3 bed. parl. (76), 2 bed. non-parl. (8), 1 bed. non-parlour (2).	22

4. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.53 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.53 :—

Site	No of Houses	Type
Highfield House Estate ...	30	Prefabricated Bungalows
Swingate Lane Estate ...	20	3 bedroom, non-parlour, brick
Victoria Road ...	10	Unity, 3 bedroom, parlour

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.53 :—

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Durrants Farm Estate ...	428	2, 3 and 4 bedroom, parlour and non-parlour ; 1 bedroom, non. parlour; Old persons bungalows ; 1 bedroom and bed-sitting room flats	364	304

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

5. At the end of the year, there were 350 applicants for Council houses. A total of 5 houses were requisitioned by the Urban District Council at the end of the year.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Sewage Disposal Works.

The scheme for the provision of new Works was amended at the request of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The revised proposals, which have been approved by the Minister, provide for a new works to deal with the daily dry weather flow and for the retention of certain portions of the existing works to deal with storm and infiltration water.

WATER SUPPLIES

During the year the water undertaking of the area was acquired by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company.

The quality of the supply continues to maintain a high level of purity and no complaint has been received regarding quantity. The Urban District Council submits monthly samples for bacteriological examination. These are taken before and after treatment by chlorination. No action has been necessary for plumbo-solvent contamination.

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Population (estimated)	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
11400	3470	11352	12	48

URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding tuberculosis) during the year :—

Disease	Total cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	9	2	Nil
Whooping Cough	67	—	Nil
Measles	186	—	Nil
Acute Pneumonia	2	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	1	—	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	8	—	Nil

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Acute Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Infectious Hepatitis
Under 1 year ... ..	...	3	1	...	...	...
1 to 2 years ... ..	...	3	9	...	...	...
2 to 3 „	1	10	12	...	...	...
3 to 4 „ ... ..	...	12	27	...	...	...
4 to 5 „	1	11	24	...	...	...
5 to 10 „	3	24	95	...	...	...
10 to 15 „	2	1	7	...	...	3
15 to 20 „	1	...	4	1	...	...
20 to 35 „	1	1	2	...	...	2
35 to 45 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	1
45 to 65 „ ... ..	...	2	1	...	...	2
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Age Unknown ... ..	...	...	4	1	...	...
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	9	67	186	2	1	8

All notifications of measles and all the notifications of whooping cough (except one of each) occurred during the first four months of the year.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES.

Pulmonary	9
Non-Pulmonary	1

DEATHS OF CASES ON REGISTER.

Pulmonary	4
Non-Pulmonary	Nil

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

STATISTICS

The Rural District of Berkhamsted is composed of the parishes of Northchurch, Aldbury, Wigginton, Tring Rural, Nettleden (with Potten End), Little Gaddesden and Puttenham, which comprises an area of 17,572 acres

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1953	...	...	...	...	5,772
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	1,708
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£34,187
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£135

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	72	27	45	BIRTH - RATE
	(				per 1,000 of the
	(Illegitimate	4	1	3	estimated resi-
					dent population 13.2
STILLBIRTHS	...	...	...	...	...
DEATHS	...	...	52	29	23 DEATH-RATE
					per 1,000 of the
					estimated resi-
					dent population 9.0

Deaths from Puerperal Causes NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	26.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	27.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	NIL

Actual number of deaths under one year:

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	2	) Total
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	NIL	) 2

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 9

Deaths from Measles (all ages) NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) NIL

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 52 deaths, 28 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory diseases. There were no deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis, but three from other Respiratory diseases. Nine deaths occurred from Cancer. One death was attributed to Influenza. There were no deaths from Poliomyelitis or motor vehicle accidents.

Causes of Death of Infants Under One Year of Age.

Of the two deaths, one was from accidental suffocation and the other from ineffective lung expansion.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1953.

Visits and Inspections Made.

GENERAL :

Houses—Public Health Acts	...	...	146
Housing Acts	...	...	98
Overcrowding	...	...	26
Infectious diseases	...	...	5
Complaints investigated	...	...	44
Drainage inspection and tests	...	...	135
Tents, vans and sheds	...	...	7
Factories, workshops and workplaces	...	...	6
Schools	...	...	5
Petroleum stores	...	...	10
Work in progress	...	...	346
Verminous premises	...	...	8
Cesspools	...	...	96
Canal boats	...	...	5
Licensed premises	...	...	9
Rivers and streams	...	...	6
Premises disinfected	...	...	3

MEAT AND FOOD :

Bakehouses	...	...	4
Cowsheds and dairies	...	...	12
Food stores	...	...	8

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Notices Served and Complied With.

		Outstanding 31.12.52	Served 1953	Complied with 1953	Outstanding 31.12.53
Formal	...	2	2	3	1
Informal	...	4	32	29	7
		—	—	—	—
Total	...	6	34	32	8
		—	—	—	—

Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Drainage and cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	189
Waterclosets	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Disinfestation.

No disinfestation was carried out during the year.

Swimming Baths.

There is one privately owned swimming bath for the public in the District. Samples taken during the year showed that the water was not receiving satisfactory chlorination. Hand dosing of the bath was carried out towards the end of the summer and the proprietor had arranged for a new chlorinating plant to be installed before the commencement of the 1954 season.

Byelaws under Section 233 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were made by the Rural District Council, and these came into force in December, 1953.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Production and Distribution.

The number of persons on the Register at the end of the year was as follows:—

Cowkeeper-Retailers	...	...	...	14
Retailers (non-resident in District)	...	...	...	10

Meat and Food Inspection.

No slaughtering for sale was carried out in the District during the year. The slaughtering of bovines, sheep and pigs for human consumption was centralised at Tring Abattoir. All carcasses and

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

offal were subject to post mortem examination.

Two condemnations of unsound food were made during the year.

Food Premises.

The number of food premises in operation during the year was 20. The premises generally were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Ice cream was retailed from 14 premises within the Rural District. In every case the ice cream was manufactured by the larger wholesale firms. No samples were taken.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred in the District during the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	9	6	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND ... Nil

3. Outwork:

Making wearing apparel ... I

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

HOUSING

1. During the year the following number of houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	8	3 bedroom, parlour and 2 bedroom non-parlour	26

(b) COMPLETED :

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	20	3 bedroom, parlour and 2 bedroom, non-parlour	32

2. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.53 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.53 :

Site	Number of houses	Type of house
Wigginton, Wick Road ...	8	3 bedroom, parlour.
Wigginton, Fieldway ...	8	3 bedroom, parlour.
Wigginton, Chesham Road	6	3 bed. non-parlour (4), 2 bed. non-parlour (2).
Aldbury, Malting Lane ...	4	3 bed., parlour and non-parlour.
Aldbury, Stoneycroft ...	12	3 bedroom (10 parlour, 2 non-parlour.)
Wilstone, New Road ...	4	3 bedroom, non-parlour.
Wilstone	2	3 bedroom, parlour bungalows.
Little Gaddesden, Cromer Close	28	3 bed. parlour (22), 3 bed. non-parlour (4), 2 bed. n/parlour (2)
Long Marston, Tring Road	8	3 bedroom, parlour.
Northchurch	2	3 bedroom, parlour
Potten End, Vicarage Road and Hedgeside	30	3 bed.. parlour and non-parlour, 2 bedroom, non-parlour.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

(b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES (OR CONTRACTS) COMMENCED SINCE 1.1.45, BUT NOT COMPLETED AT 31.12.53 :

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type	No. commenced	No. completed
Potten End, Hedgside ...	8	Bungalows	4	—
Wigginton, Highfield Rd.	30	3 bed. parlour (28) and 2 bed. non-parlour (2)...	12	8

(c) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.45 i.e., Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.53 :

Site	Proposed No. of Houses	Type (if known)
Long Marston, Station Rd.	24	Not known
Wigginton, Fieldway ...	6	3 bedroom, parlour

3. Number of houses requisitioned by the Rural District Council at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of applicants for Council houses at the end of 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	263

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

Drainage and Sewerage.

With the exception of the villages of Long Marston and Wilstone, which comprises the parish of Tring Rural, there are no public sewers in the District. The above two villages have treatment by broad irrigation. At Long Marston the four acres of land used for broad irrigation were purchased by the Council. From Wilstone, complaints have been received periodically mainly in regard to the condition of the irrigation field and, at the time of writing this report, the Council are considering the provision of a disposal works for the village.

WIGGINTON PARISH. The conditions at Wigginton remain the same as at the date of the last Annual Report, but efforts are being made to prepare a scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the village.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

NORTHCHURCH PARISH. No progress has been made towards housing development which it was hoped would result in the effective drainage into a sewer of cottages and houses at present dependent on an unsatisfactory cesspool arrangement. It will, therefore, become necessary to consider alternative arrangements at an early date.

POTTEN END PARISH. Increased housing development in the parish has brought with it greater difficulties in the problem of efficient sanitation. The Council's cesspool emptier has not been able to cope with the increasing demands on its services, and this is caused not only by the increased number of cesspools to be emptied, but sometimes also by the inadequacy of their size which necessitates frequent emptying.

Arrangements for the introduction of a sewage scheme are still held up by the non-completion of the new Berkhamsted Urban District Council's sewage works.

LITTLE GADDESSEN PARISH. There are no main sewers in this parish, the majority of the properties being connected to cesspools which are emptied by the Council. The village is of a straggling nature with low density development, and a scheme of sewerage is not therefore one of priority.

ALDBURY PARISH. No progress has been made in the actual sewer-ing of Aldbury, but the Surveyor has been instructed to prepare a scheme for submission to the County Council and Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Cesspool Emptying.

The scheme for the emptying of cesspools which came into operation on the first of October 1951 has continued to prove a valuable and much needed service within the Rural District. Unfortunately the demands made by house-holders have exceeded by far the amount of work it is possible for one machine and two men to undertake. This has resulted in considerable delay between the date of ordering the machine and the actual visit. By the middle of the year under review it was thought that in many cases house-holders were taking unnecessary advantage of the service in ordering the vehicle when it was not really required, and, as a result, the Council resolved to empty cesspools receiving the drainage from a single property twice a year free of charge, the third and subsequent emptyings to be charged for at the rate of £1 1s. od. per visit. This has had the effect of reducing the demand slightly, but at the time of writing this report, the work was still much behind schedule. Solution to the problem appears to be the purchase of a second

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

cesspool emptier. It also appears desirable to point out to those putting in building plans for new houses that if cesspools are found to be necessary, they should be built large enough to require emptying not more often than fortnightly.

The Sanitary Inspector states:

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

“ The scheme for refuse collection has continued to provide an excellent service to the public. The fact that complaints are very rarely received proves the efficiency with which the work is carried out. The refuse is deposited in the old brickfield at Outwood Kiln, Aldbury, and regular treatment of the tip face is carried out to control rodent and insect breeding.

Caravans.

There is one site—at Northchurch—licensed under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 and the Public Health Act, 1936. The licence is for 9 caravans. Essential services are available and the site is extremely well conducted.”

WATER SUPPLIES

The parishes of Tring Rural, Puttenham, Wigginton and Aldbury receive constant water supplies from the Bucks Water Board. Little Gaddesden, Potten End, Northchurch (in part), and the hamlet of St. Margarets are supplied by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company (during the year the Great Berkhamsted Water Company was taken over by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company). The two latter places are supplied from the Company's well at Berkhamsted, and the two former places from the Little Gaddesden well. Samples proved satisfactory. There is no piped supply to the hamlets of Frithsden and Nettleden.

There has been no evidence of plumbo-solvency in the water. Supplies have a considerable degree of hardness. No action was necessary in respect of contamination.

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Particulars of the number of dwelling-houses and the number of population supplied from public water mains:—

Parish	Population (approx.)	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by mean of Standpipes	
		Houses	Pop'n	Houses	Pop'n
Aldbury	870	253	813	13	45
Little Gaddesden ...	1344	282	1344	...	...
Nettleden (with Potten End)	1030	263	921	3	8
Northchurch	903	229	850	...	...
Puttenham	100	35	100	...	...
Tring Rural	737	199	700	12	44
Wigginton	998	289	998	...	...

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year —

Disease				Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	23	...	Nil
Measles	...	...	...	76	3	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	1	...	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	...	...	...	1	...	Nil
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	...	Nil

RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED

Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Whooping Cough	Measles	Puerperal Pyrexia	Infectious Hepatitis	Erysipelas
Under 1 year ...	1	..	..	..	..
1 to 2 years ...	2	3	..	..	..
2 to 3 „ ...	..	7	..	..	..
3 to 4 „ ...	2	6	..	..	..
4 to 5 „ ...	4	8	..	..	..
5 to 10 „ ...	14	48	..	..	..
10 to 15 „ ...	..	2	..	..	..
15 to 20 „ ...	..	1	..	1	..
20 to 35 „ ...	..	1	1	..	..
35 to 45 „ ...	..	..	..	..	..
45 to 65 „ ...	..	..	..	..	1
65 and upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..
Age Unknown ...	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ...	23	76	1	1	1

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES.

Pulmonary 4
Non-Pulmonary Nil

DEATHS OF CASES ON REGISTER

Pulmonary 1
Non-Pulmonary Nil

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

STATISTICS

The Urban District of Tring comprises an area of ...	4,407 acres
Population (Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population) 1953 ...	5,232
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953) according to rate books ...	1,653
Rateable Value ...	£32,446
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£128

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
LIVE BIRTHS	(Legitimate	82	41	41	BIRTH - RATE
	(Illegitimate	3	1	2	per 1,000 of the
					estimated resi-
					dent population 16.2
STILLBIRTHS	...	...	...	...	Nil
DEATHS	...	51	23	28	DEATH-RATE
					per 1,000 of the
					estimated resi-
					dent population 9.7

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... NIL

Death-Rate of Infants Under One Year of Age.

There were no deaths of infants under one year of age.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 11

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... NIL

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... NIL

Principal Causes of Death.

Of the 51 deaths, 23 were attributable to Heart or Circulatory diseases. One death occurred from Respiratory Tuberculosis and 6 from other respiratory diseases. 11 deaths occurred from Cancer. There were no deaths from Influenza, Poliomyelitis or motor vehicle accidents.

U R B A N D I S T R I C T O F T R I N G

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK FOR THE YEAR 1953

Visits and Inspections Made.

COMPLAINTS :

No. of complaints investigated	81
------------------------------------	-----	----

GENERAL :

Houses—Public Health Acts ...	...	69
Housing Act ...	...	12
Infectious diseases ...	...	34
Overcrowding ...	...	6
Council house applicants ...	...	29
Council house inspections ...	...	418
Drainage inspections and tests ...	...	242
Cesspools ...	...	10
Building byelaws ...	...	298
Stables and piggeries ...	...	2
Factories ...	...	20
Outworkers premises ...	...	4
Miscellaneous ...	...	27
Water supplies ...	...	21
Refuse collection ...	...	14
Verminous premises ...	...	2
Interviews with owners ...	...	98
Caravans ...	...	4
Schools ...	...	4

MEAT AND FOODS :

Butchers shops and stalls ...	...	8
Fried fish shops ...	...	2
General food shops ...	...	32
Dairies ...	...	4
Ice cream premises ...	...	6
Cafes ...	...	4
Licensed premises ...	...	8
Bakehouses ...	...	4

U R B A N D I S T R I C T O F T R I N G

Notices Served and Complied with.

		Outstanding 31.12.52	Served 1953	Complied with 1953	Outstanding 31.12.53
Formal	...	Nil	4	4	Nil
Informal	...	9	67	57	19
		—	—	—	—
Total	...	9	71	61	19
		—	—	—	—

Nuisances Abated—Defects and Contraventions Remedied.

Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Food premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Houses disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	17
Houses treated for vermin	...	...	...	...	2

I N S P E C T I O N A N D S U P E R V I S I O N O F F O O D

Milk Production and Distribution.

REGISTER. The number of persons on the register at the end of 1953 was as follows:—

Cowkeeper-Retailers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	6
Distributors (bottled milk only)	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dairy premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ „ „ T.T. Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	7
„ „ „ Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ „ pasteurise milk	...	...	...	...	...	1

Ice Cream.

Eight premises are registered to sell pre-wrapped ice cream, there being no manufacturers in the town.

Licensed Premises.

The sanitary accommodation of several premises is not entirely

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

satisfactory, but as a result of discussions with the Brewers concerned further improvement will be carried out during 1954.

Meat and Food Inspection.

1. The Tring Abattoir continued to supply Berkhamsted U.D.C., Berkhamsted R.D.C. and Tring U.D.C. Inspections during the last year have been carried out by Mr. G. E. Brogan, Sanitary Inspector to Berkhamsted Urban District Council.

The following is a report on the year's work:—

Table 1. Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl- uding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	842	108	598	3088	1293
Number inspected	842	108	598	3088	1293
All Diseases Except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	3	1	9	13
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	98	32	3	56	63
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	11.6	29.6	.5	1.8	5.9
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	...	...	...	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	40	16	...	...	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	4.7	14.8	...	...	.3

Table 2. Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned.

Tuberculosis	2,451 lbs.
Other diseases	6,826 lbs.
Total	<u>9,277 lbs.</u>

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

2. Foodstuffs Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption.

Meat	...	...	...	...	...	431 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	4 lbs.
Tins	...	...	...	...	...	11
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	27 lbs.
Coconut ice	...	...	...	...	...	28 lbs.
Pies	...	...	...	...	...	13

Clean Food Campaign.

In connection with the increased interest in food cleanliness and the stress on the importance of the subject, the following information is provided:—

(a) NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE DISTRICT :—

Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	20
Fish shops	...	...	...	...	1
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	1
General food premises	...	...	...	...	53

(b) NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND DAIRIES REGISTERED UNDER THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949 :—

Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	20
Preserved food premises	...	...	...	...	16
Dairies	...	...	...	...	8

(c) NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS OF REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES :—

Total inspections 28. 14 premises inspected were found to require minor improvements to bring them up to the necessary standard. These were completed by the end of the year under review.

(d) No new educational activity was commenced during the year.

(e) All condemned food (excluding meat condemned at the slaughterhouse) is buried at the refuse tip.

Food Poisoning.

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during the year.

URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937.

I. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	4	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	16	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	41	20	2	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences: insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	2	—	—	—

3. Outwork.

SECTION 110.

Number of outworkers in August list required by
Sections 110(1) (c):—

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Making wearing apparel	2
Stuffed toys	1
Lace, lace curtains and nets	1

SECTION 111.

Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises Nil

HOUSING

1. During the year the following number of houses were:—

(a) COMMENCED ONLY.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
	Nil		15

(b) COMPLETED.

	Local Authority		Private Enterprise
	Number	Type	
Permanent Brick ...	10	3 bedroom, parlour	11

2. The position in regard to **Housing Schemes** at 31.12.53 was as follows:—

(a) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES COMPLETED SINCE 1.1.45 UP TO 31.12.53 :

Site	Number of houses	Type
Woodland Close, ...	46	3 bedroom, parlour
Garnel ...	14	3 bedroom, parlour
Garnel Close...	10	3 bedroom, parlour
Dundale Road ...	10	3 bedroom, parlour
Meadow Close...	6	3 bedroom, parlour
Goldfield ...	8	3 bedroom, parlour

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- (b) PARTICULARS OF SCHEMES PROJECTED SINCE 1.1.53—i.e. Schemes about which arrangements are in hand, but where a start had not been made at 31.12.53 :

Site	Proposed No. of houses	Type (if known)
Goldfield 	20	3 bedroom, non-parlour

3. Number of houses requisitioned by the Authority at
 31.12.53 Nil
 Number of applicants for Council houses at the end of
 1953 232

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Drainage and Sewerage.

The disposal of the sewage by broad irrigation remains relatively unchanged. A new electric motor has replaced the existing engine and this factor has materially assisted in the distribution of the sewage. Sewers have been laid to serve the main area of residential development between Dundale Road and Miswell Lane.

Refuse Collection.

Refuse collection is by direct labour once weekly, except the outlying hamlets which have a fortnightly collection.

Cesspool Emptying.

The Council have been able to secure the services of the neighbouring local authorities to meet this need.

WATER SUPPLIES

The whole District is supplied by the Bucks Water Board. The water is chlorinated and the supply continues to be satisfactory in quantity and quality.

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The following table gives particulars of dwelling houses and population supplied from public water mains:—

Population (estimated)	(a) Supply direct to Houses		(b) Supply by means of Standpipes	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
5232	1590	5100	45	125

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives details of Notifiable Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) during the year:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	17	6	Nil
Whooping Cough	40	1	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	2	2	Nil
Measles	121	—	Nil
Infectious Hepatitis	1	1	Nil
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	1	Nil

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Analysis of Notified Cases Under Age Groups.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	Measles	Infectious Hepatitis	Meningococcal Infection
Under 1 year ...	...	2	...	3	...	...
1 to 2 years ...	...	5	...	15	...	1
2 to 3 „ ...	1	5	...	8	...	...
3 to 4 „ ...	1	2	...	15	...	...
4 to 5 „ ...	...	5	...	17	...	...
5 to 10 „ ...	13	20	...	47	...	...
10 to 15 „ ...	...	...	...	11	...	...
15 to 20 „ ...	...	...	...	4	...	...
20 to 35 „ ...	2	...	2	...	...	...
35 to 45 „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 to 65 „ ...	...	...	...	...	1	...
65 and upwards ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Age unknown ...	...	1	...	1	...	...
TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED ..	17	40	2	121	1	1

Both the cases of Poliomyelitis were paralytic and severe. In the one case recovery was complete, and in the other, up to the present, partial.

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES.

Pulmonary I
Non-Pulmonary Nil

DEATHS.

Pulmonary I
Non-Pulmonary Nil

TABLE SHOWING BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES AND
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

Area	Birth- Rate per 1,000 Population	Death- Rate per 1,000 Population	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Live Births
England and Wales	15.5	11.4	26.8
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	17.0	12.2	30.8
160 Smaller Towns (Resident Popu- lation 25,000 to 50,000, 1951 Census)	15.7	11.3	24.3
London Administrative County ...	17.5	12.5	24.8
BOROUGH OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD ...	18.2	10.3	12.7
RURAL DISTRICT OF HEMEL HEMPSTEAD ...	16.9	9.4	14.8
URBAN DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED ...	15.3	9.3	28.6
RURAL DISTRICT OF BERKHAMSTED ...	13.2	9.0	26.3
URBAN DISTRICT OF TRING ...	16.2	9.7	Nil
WHOLE SOUTH HERTS (No. 1) COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT	16.8	9.8	15.6

